

January 27, 2010

President George W. Bush
The Clinton Bush Haiti Fund
c/o Communities Foundation of Texas
5500 Caruth Haven Lane
Dallas, TX 75225

Dear Mr. President:

As Governor of the state most devastated by the worst natural disaster in American history - Hurricane Katrina - I deeply appreciate the thousands of volunteers and the millions of dollars in contributions that have helped Mississippi recover. We could not have made it without that outpouring of support.

In that same spirit of responding to a great human tragedy, this one the horrific January 12, 2010, earthquake in the country of Haiti, I am very pleased to forward to the Clinton Bush Haiti Fund these checks collected from members of the Mississippi State Legislature, Mississippi State Capitol employees and members of my Administration. These contributions were presented to me during a legislative session and I wanted to get the money into the capable hands of the fund that you and President Clinton have so generously created. I know the need is urgent.

I also want to specifically offer my thanks to State Sen. Willie Simmons of Cleveland, Mississippi, and State Rep. Chuck Espy of Clarksdale, Mississippi, who spearheaded this effort and challenged elected officials and staff members to dig into their own pockets to help with the effort; people have been donating since last week.

I speak for all Mississippians when I say we remain grateful for the substantial support for our state's Gulf Coast region from the Katrina fund created by President George H. W. Bush and President Clinton in 2005. Helping the people in Haiti is a way we can demonstrate our gratitude for the Katrina aid.

Sincerely,

Haley Barbour